

How To Make Modern Poetry
Out Of Ordinary Materials
Found Around The House

talk a great deal about being drunk last night
and tomorrow night in fact you're smashed to
the gills while you're writing the whole thing
and here and there use fourletteranglosaxon
people will be so goddam grateful to understand
one word of it, they'll call you
a genius

give explicit details about your heterosexual
adventures everyone was wondering about you

allude often to obscure and mystical tomes
(not books, tomes) quoting from them heavily
in the original languages and don't worry if
someone manages to translate they'll just
think there is some psychological connection
they're too stupid to figure out

everything is hopeless and ugly. use it.

capital(ize nothing and do not punctuate
except for a liberal sprinkling of semi-
colons in the middle of words it slows
up the reader to the point of insanity and
then man he's really with it

meter isn't hard to avoid but you've got to
watch like the devil or cadences will creep
up on you and for godsake don't rhyme anything
it sounds contrived and those artificial
devices man are like
nowhere

don't cuss bigmoney it's already been done
just mention with a cynical leer that you
like payola as well as the next little creep
caught in the big machine that's what THEY've
done to you jack and you're bitter see
and speaking of machinery use things like
flywheels, pistons, fanbelts, the turn of

the screw in the forehead of the century
and above all throw in THE BOMB every three
or four lines

put
each

word

on

a

separate

line

poetry is paid for (that's an inside joke)
by the line besides it's very difficult to
read

when you've done all this, describe your
plumbing, the scum in the ditch across
the road, the bastard next door, don't
forget you're mad you love everybody that
is you love mankind something terrible but
you're mad, real mad at them because
they're all a bunch of idiots too stupid
to know when they're miserable

then collect a bunch of these poems and
have them privately printed it's chic and
what's more it's the only way and send a
copy to your old english teacher, your
ex-wife, assorted friends enemies and the
unknown names in your old address book

don't send one to me

-- Phyllis Onstott Arone

Logansport, Indiana

Current and highly recommended:

HERMES PAST THE HOUR by Judson Crews, published
by Este Es Press, P. O. Box 1492, Taos, New Mexico
USA (\$1.25).

IRON ARK, A CENTURY OF PROGRESS, ICARUS all by
Kirby Congdon, published by Interim Books, Box 35
Village Station, N.Y. 14, N.Y. (all for \$2.00).